

ACT III] LADY WINDERMERE'S
FAN 319

Lord Windermere. Certainly. [Goes L and exit.
Mrs. Erlynne. Thanks I What can I do? What
can I do?
I feel a passion awakening within me that I never
felt before.
What can it mean? The daughter must not be
like the
mother—that would be terrible. How can I save
her? How
can I save my child? A moment may ruin a
life. Who
knows that better than I? Windermere must be
got out of
the house, that is absolutely necessary. [Goes LJ]
But how-
shall I do it? It must be done somehow. Ah!

Enter Lord Augustus RUE carrying
bouquet.

Lord Augustus. Dear lady, I am in such suspense!
May I not
have an answer to my request?
Mrs. Erlynne. Lord Augustus, listen to me. You
are to take
Lord Windermere down to your club at once, and
keep him
there as long as possible. You understand?

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Lord Augustus. But you said you wished me to
keep early
hours I

Mrs. Erlynne. [Nervously.] Do what I tell you.
Do what I
tell you.

Lord Augustus. And my reward?

Mrs. Erlynne. Your reward? Your reward? Oh! ask
me that
to-morrow. But don't let Windermere out of
your sight
to-night. If you do I will never forgive you. I
will never
speak to you again, I'll have nothing to do
with you.
Remember you are to keep Windermere at your
dub and
don't let him come back to-night. [Exit
L.

Lord Augustus. Well, really, I might be her husband
already.
Positively I might. [Follows her in a bewildered
manner.

ACT DROP

THIRD ACT

SCENE

Lord Darlington's rooms. A large sofa is in front
of fireplace
R. At the back of the stage a curtain is drawn
across the window.
Doors L and R. Table R with writing materials.
Table C
with syphons, glasses and Tantalus frame.
Table L with
cigar and cigarette box. Lamps lit.

Lady Windermere. [Standing by the fireplace."] Why
doesn't he
come? This waiting is horrible. He should be
here. Why